08°CV 03505

COMPLAINT

PROSKAUER ROSE LLP Russell L. Hirschhorn Kevin J. Pflug 1585 Broadway New York, New York 10036-8299 P: 212.969.3286 F: 212.969.2900 Attorneys for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UFCW LOCAL 174 PENSION FUND,

Plaintiff,

٧.

: Civil Case No.:

MOTT HAVEN PACKING, CO., INC.,

Defendant.

Plaintiff, Board of Trustees of the UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund (the "Trustees"), by and through its attorneys, Proskauer Rose LLP, states by way of complaint against Defendant, Mott Haven Packing, Co., Inc. ("Mott Haven Packing"), as follows:

1. This is an action seeking relief pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. § 1001 *et seq.*, including but not limited to Sections 4201 through 4301, 29 U.S.C. §§ 1381 through 1451.

THE PARTIES

2. The Trustees of the UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund (the "Fund") established the UFCW Local 174 Pension Plan (the "Plan"), which at all relevant times was a multiemployer defined benefit pension plan, as defined by ERISA § 3(37)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(37)(A). The Fund maintains offices at 540 West 48th Street, New York, New York 10036-1130 and 900

South Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 64, Staten Island, New York, 10314.

3. At all relevant times Mott Haven Packing was a New York corporation with offices at 223 East 138th Street, Bronx, New York 10451, and engaged in the wholesale meat packing business.

JURISDICTION & VENUE

- 4. This Court has jurisdiction to hear this action pursuant to ERISA § 4301(c), 29 U.S.C. § 1451(c).
- 5. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to ERISA § 4301(d), 29 U.S.C. § 1451(d).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 6. Pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement between Mott Haven Packing and UFCW Local 174, the labor organization that for collective bargaining purposes represented the employees of Mott Haven Packing, Mott Haven Packing had a duty to contribute to the Fund in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement and the Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Trust Agreement") governing the Fund.
- 7. Mott Haven Packing made contributions to the Fund until December 2005, at which time it completely withdrew from the Fund. This withdrawal triggered the imposition of withdrawal liability on Mott Haven Packing pursuant to ERISA § 4203, 29 U.S.C. § 1383.
- 8. By letter dated October 27, 2006 (the "Demand Letter"), the Fund notified Mott Haven Packing that it had effected a complete withdrawal from the Fund and, therefore, was subject to the payment of withdrawal liability pursuant to ERISA §§ 4202 and 4219(b)(1), 29 U.S.C. §§ 1382 and 1399(b)(1), and the terms of the Plan and the Trust Agreement. A true and correct copy of the Demand Letter and the Certified Mail Return Receipt is attached hereto and

incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

- 9. As explained in the Demand Letter, the payment schedule provided for a single payment of \$522,734.00, or 80 equal quarterly payments of \$6,112.00. In accordance with ERISA § 4219, 29 U.S.C. § 1399(c)(2), the payments were to commence no later than 60 days after the date of the Demand Letter, *i.e.*, no later than December 27, 2006.
- 10. Mott Haven Packing failed and/or refused to remit payments to the Fund in accordance with the terms of the Demand Letter, ERISA § 4219, 29 U.S.C. § 1399, and the terms of the Plan and Trust Agreement.
- 11. Mott Haven Packing's failure to make the payments set forth in the Demand Letter violates the terms of the Plan, the Trust Agreement and the relevant provisions of ERISA, including ERISA §§ 4219, 4221, and 4301, 29 U.S.C. §§ 1399, 1401 and 1451.
- 12. By letter dated March 27, 2007 (the "Default Letter"), the Fund notified Mott Haven Packing that the Fund had not received the payments described in the Demand Letter. A true and correct copy of the Default Letter and the Certified Mail Return Receipt is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit B.
- 13. Notwithstanding the Default Letter, the Demand Letter, the terms of the Plan, the Trust Agreement and ERISA, Mott Haven Packing has continued to fail and/or refused to make payments to the Fund.
- 14. Mott Haven Packing is in default as a result of not having paid its withdrawal liability to the Fund within 60 days of the date that it received the Default Letter. Pursuant to ERISA § 4219(c)(5), 29 U.S.C. § 1399(c)(5), Mott Haven Packing is required to immediately pay the total outstanding amount of its withdrawal liability, plus accrued interest on the total outstanding liability from December 27, 2006, the due date of the first payment that was not

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timely made.

15. By letter dated August 8, 2007, the Fund advised counsel for Mott Haven Packing

that it was in default of its withdrawal liability and demanded immediate payment of

\$522,734.00, plus accrued interest of \$23,831.39. A true and correct copy of the Fund's August

8, 2007 letter and Certified Mail Return Receipt is attached hereto and incorporated herein as

Exhibit C.

16. By the acts and omissions set forth above, Mott Haven Packing violated ERISA

and the terms of the Plan and Trust Agreement. As a result of Mott Haven Packing's acts and

omissions, the Fund has been damaged and has been deprived of money due and owing to the

Fund.

WHEREFORE, the Trustees demand that judgment be entered in its favor and against

Mott Haven Packing and that it be awarded \$546,565.39, plus accrued interest from August 8,

2007, attorneys' fees, costs of suit, and such other legal and equitable relief as the Court may

deem just and appropriate.

Dated: April 10, 2008

New York, NY

Respectfully submitted,

PROSKAUER ROSE LLP

Russell L. Hirschhorn

Kevin J. Pflug

1585 Broadway

New York, New York 10036-8299

P: 212.969.3286

F: 212.969.2900

Attorneys for Plaintiff

4

EXHIBIT

A



UFCW Local 174 Affiliated Trust Funds

540 WEST 48TH STREET • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-1130 • 212 307-7007

October 27, 2006

By Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Richard Matzelle, President Mott Haven Packing Company 223 East 138th Street Bronx, NY 10451

Re:

Notice and Demand for Payment of Withdrawal Liability

UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

Dear Mr. Matzelle:

According to our records, Mott Haven Packing Company (the "Company") ceased to have an obligation to contribute to the UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund (the "Fund") as of December 13, 2005. As a result, the Company has effected a complete withdrawal from the Fund, within the meaning of Section 4203(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). Consequently, the Company is subject to the payment of withdrawal liability to the Fund and, in accordance with the requirements of Section 4202 of ERISA, the Board of Trustees of the Fund hereby makes demand for payment of withdrawal liability, as described below.

In accordance with the Fund's method of computing withdrawal liability, we have computed the Company's withdrawal liability to the Fund to be \$522,734. Under Sections 4219(c)(1)(C) and (c)(3) of ERISA, the Company is required to pay the full value of its withdrawal liability in 80 quarterly installment payments, each in the amount of \$6,112. Please find enclosed a payment schedule setting forth the Company's required withdrawal liability payments. Please note that interest on each such payment shall accrue until the date on which payment is actually made. Pursuant to Section 4219(c)(4) of ERISA, the Company may elect to prepay the outstanding amount, plus accrued interest, in whole or in part, without penalty.

In accordance with Section 4219(c)(2) of ERISA, payment of withdrawal liability to the Fund is required to commence no later than 60 days after the date of this Notice, "notwithstanding any request for review or appeal of determinations of the amount of such liability." Thus, the Company's initial quarterly withdrawal liability payment is due on or before December 27, 2006. Payment of withdrawal liability should be made directly to the order of "UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund" and forwarded to the undersigned at the address above.

Please note that the liability and payment schedule set forth above and in the enclosure is an estimate that is subject to adjustment due to a change in withdrawal liability resulting from, for

UFCW LOCAL 174 PENSION FUND • UFCW LOCAL 174 RETAIL PENSION FUND • UFCW LOCAL 174 COMMERCIAL PENSION FUND •
 UFCW LOCAL 174 COMMERCIAL HEALTH CARE FUND • FUR WORKERS LOCAL 3F PENSION FUND • FUR SERVICE EMPLOYEES PENSION FUND •
 UNITED MECHANICS 150 PENSION FUND •



Page 2

example, any actuarial change in the amount of unfunded vested benefits. If such an adjustment becomes necessary, the Fund will submit an amended withdrawal liability statement to the Company.

Failure to commence payment of withdrawal liability or to make timely subsequent payments, as required under ERISA, will constitute "default" within the meaning of Section 4219(c)(5) of ERISA, and will entitle the Fund to require immediate payment of the full amount of withdrawal liability owed to the Fund by the Company, plus accrued interest. The Fund will assess such default penalties on the entire amount of the Company's withdrawal liability, as well as any court costs and attorneys' fees incurred in collecting such delinquency.

Under Section 4219(b)(2)(A) of ERISA, the Company has the right, within 90 days after the receipt of this Notice, to:

- Request the Trustees to review any specific matter relating to the determination of the Company's withdrawal liability and the schedule of payments described herein;
- (2) Identify any inaccuracy in the determination of the amount of unfunded vested benefits allocable to the Company; and
- (3) Furnish any additional relevant information to the Trustees.

Pursuant to Section 4221 of ERISA, any dispute arising out of the Fund's determination and review must be resolved through arbitration. Either party may initiate the arbitration proceeding herein within a 60 day period after the earlier of:

- (a) the date of the Fund's notification to the Company under Section 4219(b)(2)(B) of ERISA, or
- (b) 120 days after the date of the Company's request under Section 4219(b)(2)(A) of ERISA.

Under Section 4219(c)(2) of ERISA, the Company must commence payments demanded herein in accordance with the terms and schedule set forth above, notwithstanding any request for review or appeal of determinations.

Pursuant to Section 4219(a) of ERISA, it is hereby requested that the Company advise the undersigned, within 30 days of the date of this Notice, whether the Company is or was a member of a trade or business "under common control" within the meaning of Sections 414 and 1563 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (i.e., a "controlled group"). If the Company is or was a member of a controlled group, it is hereby requested that the Company furnish the undersigned with the corporate (or business) names and addresses of each organization within the controlled group. Please also note whether any of these organizations contributed to the Fund at any time.

Page 3

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees of the

UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

Bv:

Brandi Lauletti

Fund Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Amy Covert, Esq.

UFCW LOCAL 174 PENSION FUND WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY

		OYER: aw During Plan Year Beginning July 1:	Mott Have	n Packing Co. 2005
1:		n's unfunded value of vested benefits as of June 2005		87,019,383
2.	Yea emp	al of all employer contributions to the Plan for Plan rs 2000 - 2004 (exclusive of contributions of ployers who withdrew prior to the Plan Year inning July 1, 2005)	\$	13,719,093
3.	per :	funded value of vested benefits as of June 30, 2005 dollar of employer contributions during Plan Years $0 - 2004 = (1) / (2)$		6.34294
4.	Mot	t Haven Packing Co. contributions Plan Years 2000 - 2004		
	TOI I	Pian Years 2000 - 2004		82,412
5.	the i	t Haven Packing Co. allocable share of unfunded value of vested benefits f June 30, 2005 = (3) x (4)		
	<i>u</i> s 0.	1 Julie 30, 2003 — (3) x (4)		522,734
6.	De 1 \$87,	minimis threshold: smaller of $3/4\%$ of (1) (.0075 x 019,383 = \$652,645) and \$50,000		50,000
7.	Emp mini	oloyer withdrawal liability amount after de imis adjustment:		
	(a)	if (5) is less than (6)		N/A
	(b)	if (5) is equal to or more than (6), but less than \$100,000		\$0 N/A
	(c)	if (5) is between \$100,000 and	***************************************	Amount in (5) less amount in (6)
		the sum of \$100,000 and the amount in (6)		N/A
	(d)			Double amount in (5) less the sum of (6) and \$100,000
		\$100,000 and the amount in (6)		522,734
				Amount in (5)

UFCW LOCAL 174 PENSION FUND WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY

EMPLOYER

Mott Haven Packing Co.

Payment Schedule

- **High Contribution rate (Per Member Per Month Basis** ERISA Section 4219(c)(1)(C)(i)(11) 1.
- \$ 200.00
- Highest average consecutive three year Contribution Base Units ERISA Section 4219(c)(1)(C)(i)(i) 2.

Plan Year		
Beginning	Months of	Average for
July 1	Contributions	prior 3 Years
1995	63	
1996	100	
1997	109	91
1998	-	70
1999	106	72
2000	116	74
2001	120	114
2002	121	119
2003	108	116
2004	101	110

Highest 3 years Average 119.00

3. Amount of each annual payment: = $(1) \times (2)$

\$ 23,800.00

4. Payment Schedule:

	Year Beginning	Balance at Beginning of Year	Payment <u>Due*</u>	Remaining <u>Balance</u>	7.50% Interest	Balance at End of Year	
,					***************************************		
,	11/1/2006	\$522,734	\$23,800	\$498,934	\$37,420	\$536,354	1
2	11/1/2007	\$536,354	\$23,800	\$512,554	\$38,442	\$550,996	2
3	11/1/2008	\$550,99 6	\$23,800	\$527,196	\$39,540	\$566,736	3
4	11/1/2009	\$5 66,73 6	\$23,800	\$542,936	\$40,720	\$583,656	4
5	11/1/2010	\$583,656	\$23,800	\$559,856	\$41.989	\$601,845	5
6	11/1/2011	\$601,845	\$23,800	\$578,045	\$43,353	\$621,398	6
7	11/1/2012	\$621,398	\$23,800	\$597,5 98	\$44,820	\$642,418	7
8	11/1/2013	\$642,418	\$23.800	\$618,618	\$46,396	\$665.014	8
9	11/1/2014	\$665,014	\$23,800	\$641,214	\$48,091	\$689,305	9
10	11/1/2015	\$689,305	\$23,800	\$665,505	\$49,913	\$715,418	10
11	11/1/2016	\$715,418	\$23,800	\$691,618	\$51,871	\$743,489	11
12.	11/1/2017	\$743,489	\$23,800	\$719,689	\$53,977	\$773,666	12
13	11/1/2018	\$773,666	\$23,800	\$749,866	\$56,240	\$806,106	13
14	11/1/2019	\$806,106	\$23,800	\$782,306	\$58,673	\$840,979	14
15	11/1/2020	\$840.979	\$23,800	\$817,179	\$61,288	\$878,467	15
16	11/1/2021	\$878,467	\$23,800	\$854,667	\$64,100	\$918.767	16
17	11/1/2022	\$918,767	\$23,800	\$894,967	\$67,123	\$962,090	
18	11/1/2023	\$962,090	\$23,800	\$938,290			17
19	11/1/2024	\$1,008,662	\$23,800		\$70,372	\$1,008,662	18
20		• •		\$984,862	\$73,865	\$1,058,727	19
20	11/1/2025	\$1,058,727	\$23,800	\$1,034,927	\$77,620	\$1,112,547	20
	* To be noid	in quartarly installmen	to				

* To be paid in quarterly installments

5.

Quarterly Payments
Quarterly Payments

\$6,112

for 80 Quarters

${\bf UFCW\;LOCAL\;174\;PENSION\;FUND} \\ {\bf ESTIMATED\;WITHDRAWAL\;LIABILITY\;AS\;JUNE\;30,\,2005}$

MOTT HAVEN PACKING COMPANY

		Withdrawal Liability	Redetermination Liability	Reallocation Liability (Mass Withdrawa)
1.	Plan's unfunded value of vested benefits as of June 30, 2005	\$ 87,019,383	\$ 87,019,383	\$ 135,006,798
2.	Mott Haven Packing Company contributions for Plan Years 2000 - 2004	\$ 82,412	\$ 82,412	\$ 82,412
3.	Total of all employer contributions to the Plan for Plan Years 2000 - 2004 (exclusive of contributions of employers who withdrew prior to the Plan Year beginning July 1, 2005)	\$ 13,719,093	\$ 13,719,093	\$ 13,719,093
4.	Mott Haven Packing Company contributions as a percentage of all employer contributions = (2) / (3)	0.6007%	0.6007%	0.6007%
5.	Mott Haven Packing Company allocable share of the unfunded value of vested benefits as of June 30, $2005 = (!) \times (4)$	\$ 522,734	\$ 522,734	\$ 811,000
6.	De minimis adjustment to withdrawal liability	\$ -	. N/A	N/A
7.	Employer withdrawal liability amount after de minimis adjustment = (5) - (6), not less than zero	\$ 522,734	\$ 522,734	\$ 811,000
8.	Highest contribution rate (per member per month) for Mott Haven Packing Company	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
9.	Highest average consecutive three-year Contribution Base Units for Mott Haven Packing Company	119.00	119.00	119.00
10.	Amount of annual withdrawal payment = (8) x (9)	\$ 23,800	\$ 23,800	\$ 23,800
11.	Amount of withdrawal payment if paid quarterly	\$ 6,112	\$ 6,112	\$ 6,112
12.	Approximate Years Payable	20.00	Infinite	<u>Infinite</u>

This Illustration provides an estimate of your withdrawal liability and payment schedule had you withdrawn from the fund during the Plan Year ended June 30, 2006. Actual amounts may be higher or lower than those shown above.

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7007	Mr. Richard Motzelle President SIRBOL API. NO.; Mott Haven Packing Company or PO BOX NO. 223 East 138th Street										
7	City, State, ZIP+4 Bronx, NY 10451										
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EXHIBIT

В





540 WEST 48TH STREET • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-1130 • 212 307-7007

March 27, 2007

By Certified Mail/ Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Richard Matzelle, President Mott Haven Packing Company 78-34 79th Place Glendale, NY 11385

Re: Notice of Failure to Make Payments on Withdrawal Liability

UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

Dear Mr. Matzelle:

By letter dated October 27, 2006, UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund (the "Fund") notified Mott Haven Packing Company (the "Company") of its obligation to pay withdrawal liability in accordance with Section 4219(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") (the "Demand Letter"). Specifically, the Demand Letter stated that the Company's payment of withdrawal liability to the Fund is required to commence no later than 60 days after the date of such letter, notwithstanding any request for review or appeal of the determinations of the amount of the withdrawal liability or the schedule of payments. The Demand Letter assessed withdrawal liability on the Company in the amount of \$522,734, payable in 80 equal quarterly installment of \$6,112. The initial payment was due on or before December 27, 2006.

According to our records, the Company has not made any payment to the Fund as required under the Fund's Demand Letter. Please be advised that if the Company's failure is not cured within 60 days of receipt of this notice, the Company will be deemed in default of its withdrawal liability as provided by Section 4219(c)(5) of ERISA. The Fund will then be entitled to require immediate payment of the outstanding amount of the Company's withdrawal liability, plus accrued interest. The Fund may assess such default penalties on the entire amount of the Company's withdrawal liability, as well as any court costs and attorneys' fees incurred in collecting such delinquency.

Payment should be made to the order of "UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund" and forwarded to the undersigned at the above address.



If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees of the

UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

Brandi Lauletti

Fund Administrator

cc: Amy Covert, Esq.

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELI	VERY
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Glendale, NY 11385 ATN: Richard Matzelle	3. Service Type Certified Mall	lall celpt for Merchandise
2. Article Number 7001 0340 0003 PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Ru	BB9L 7077	102595-02-M-1540

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EXHIBIT

C





August 8, 2007

By Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Robert Carlsen, Esq. Robert C. Carlsen, P.C. 73-35 Myrtle Avenue Glendale, N.Y. 11385

Re:

Mott Haven Packing Company Failure to Make Payments on Withdrawal Liability from UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

Dear Mr. Carlsen:

This letter responds to your letter dated May 25, 2007. As explained in the letter to you dated May 17, 2007, UFCW Local 342 (the "Union") and the UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund (the "Fund") are separate legal entities. Any release between the Union and Mott Haven Packing Company (the "Company") in no way affects any obligation between the Company and the Fund. While we will await your forthcoming documentation, you should be aware that Section 4219 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") imposes explicit time frames for the payment of an employer's withdrawal liability, which must be complied with notwithstanding any request for review.

By letter dated October 27, 2006, the Fund notified the Company of its obligation to pay withdrawal liability. At that time, the Company was provided with a demand for payment and a payment schedule. In accordance with Section 4219(c)(2) of ERISA, payment of withdrawal liability to the Fund was required to commence no later than December 26, 2006. By letter dated March 27, 2007, the Fund notified the Company of its failure to make payment and demanded that the Company cure the failure by making payment in accordance with the withdrawal liability payment schedule. The Fund's May 17, 2007 letter reminded you of the May 26, 2007 deadline for curing the Company's failure.

According to our records, the Company has not yet made payment as required. As a result, and in accordance with Section 4219(c)(5) of ERISA, the Company is now in default of its withdrawal liability. The Board of Trustees hereby requires immediate payment of the outstanding amount of the Company's withdrawal liability, \$522,734.00, plus accrued interest of \$23,831.39 as shown in the enclosed schedule. To avoid legal action, the Company must send a lump sum single payment of \$546,565.39 payable to the order of "UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund" and forwarded to the undersigned at the address above.

Page 21 of 24

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees of the UFCW Local 174 Pension Fund

By: Won and

Donald Proniewych Fund Administrator

cc: Mr. Richard Matzelle, President Mott Haven Packing Company

78-34 79th Place Glendale, NY 11385

Amy Covert, Esq.

Enclosure

UFCW 174 Pension Fund Accrued Interest Calculation for Mott Haven Packing Co.

Date of demand letter		10/27/2006
Annual interest rate		7.50%
First payment due date (60	12/26/2006	
Withdrawal liability amoun	\$522,734.00	
Accrued interest to:	08/08/2007	\$23,831.39
Total payment due		\$546,565.39

V

1. C. 2. C. 75.	
SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTIO	Chin
■ Complete Items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete Item 4 If Restricted Delivery is desired. ■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: MR. RICHARDMATZelle, Press Moff Haven Pack Co. 7 8-34 79th Place	A. Signature Agent Addressee Addressee Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery D. Is delivery address different from Item 1? Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: No
glendale N.Y. 1/385	3. Service Type Certified Mall Express Mall Registered Return Receipt for Merchandiss Insured Mall C.O.D. 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) Yes
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